

Message Text

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TO AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 164696

EXDIS

E.O. 11652:XGDS

TAGS: ASEC PINS CI

SUBJECT: BOMB ATTACKS AND ULTIMA HORA

REF: SANTIAGO 5199

FOR AMBASSADOR DAVIS FROM KARKASHIAN

FOLLOWING IS FYI UNCLEARED MEMCON AND SUBJECT TO REVISION.

1. DURING LUNCH BREAK IN AUGUST 17 SESSION OF BILATERAL TALKS, ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH CHILEAN AMBASSADOR DESIGNATE TO U.S., CARLOS FORTIN, RECENT BOMBS FOUND OUTSIDE HOMES OF U.S. EMBASSY OFFICERS IN SANTIAGO AS WELL AS ABUSIVE ARTICLES IN SOCIALIST NEWSPAPER ULTIMA HORA ATTACKING U.S. GOVERNMENT, AMBASSADOR DAVIS AND VARIOUS EMBASSY OFFICIALS. (AMB. DESIGNATE FORTIN DID NOT PARTICIPATE IN BILATERAL TALKS, HOWEVER, HE ACCOMPANIED DELEGATION FROM SANTIAGO AND WAS "AVAILABLE" IN EMBASSY RESIDENCE WHILE TALKS WERE BEING CONDUCTED).

2. IN RESPONSE TO FORTIN'S EXPRESSION OF CONCERN OVER ISSUES WHICH MIGHT WORSEN THE CLIMATE OF OUR BILATERAL CONFIDENTIAL

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RELATIONS, SECRETARY KUBISCH REFERRED TO SERIES OF RECENT SCURRILOUS ARTICLES WHICH HAVE APPEARED IN ULTIMA HORA AND OTHER MARXIST-CONTROLLED MEDIA FORM AGAINST AMB. DAVIS AND VARIOUS U.S. EMBASSY OFFICIALS. HE NOTED ULTIMA HORA HAD

GONE SO FAR AS TO PUBLISH THE NAMES AND HOME ADDRESSES OF THESE INDIVIDUALS AND HAD FALSELY ALLEGED THAT THE U.S. WAS RESPONSIBLE FOR OR SOMEHOW INVOLVED IN THE CURRENT CIVIL DISTURBANCES BEING EXPERIENCED IN CHILE. HE NOTED THAT PUBLICATION OF THE HOME ADDRESSES OF THESE EMBASSY OFFICIALS UNDOUBTEDLY CONTRIBUTED TO THE FACT THAT EXPLOSIVE DEVICES WERE SUBSEQUENTLY FOUND IN THE GARDENS OF THREE EMBASSY OFFICERS.

3. ASSISTANT SECRETARY KUBISCH SAID HE COULD TELL FORTIN PRIVATELY THAT KEY USG OFFICIALS REACTED STRONGLY TO THIS CAMPAIGN. HE ADDED THAT WE ARE AWARE OF WHO OWNS ULTIMA HORA AND CAN ONLY ASSUME THAT THE OWNERS HAVE SOME INFLUENCE ON THE PAPER'S POLICIES. (TOHA, FORMER EDITOR AND PART OWNER OF ULTIMA HORA, WAS IN THE ROOM DURING THIS CONVERSATION AND PROBABLY OVERHEARD MR. KUBISCH'S REMARKS.) ROGERS

CONFIDENTIAL

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